

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03551 111244Z

53

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 /072 W

----- 084340

R 111210Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5152

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3551

FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRETORIA, INFO JOHANNESBURG AND DURBAN
DATED 10 AUG 76 IS REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION.

QUOTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0913

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SF

SUBJ: RECTOR THREATENS RESIGNATION AT UWC

REF: CAPE TOWN 0911 & 0896

1. UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN CAPE (UWC) RECTOR RICHARD VAN DER ROSS,
IN EFFORT TO END STUDENT VIOLENCE AND DISRUPTION, ANNOUNCED TO
MASS MEETING OF STUDENTS TODAY THAT HE WOULD RESIGN IF THAT WAS
WISH OF MAJORITY OF STUDENTS AND STAFF. HE SAID HE WOULD TAKE
STUDENTS' GRIEVANCES TO HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT BUT WARNED
THAT IF VIOLENCE, INCLUDING DISRUPTION OF LECTURES, CONTINUED,
HE WOULD BE FORCED SUSPEND CONSTITUTION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
COUNCIL, THUS PROHIBITING ALL STUDENT MEETINGS ON CAMPUS.
VAN DE ROSS AGAIN CALLED FOR END OF BOYCOTT OF CLASSES. HE MADE
CLEAR THAT IF DISRUPTIONS CONTINUE HE WILL BE FORCED TO CALL
IN POLICE.

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2. AFTERNOON MEETING OF SOME 700 STUDENTS DECIDED TO CONTINUE
BOYCOTT BUT TO SUSPEND FOR THE DAY THE DISRUPTION OF LECTURES.
MEETING ALSO DECIDED TO IGNORE RECTOR'S OFFER TO HOLD REFERENDUM
ON QUESTION OF HIS RESIGNATION AS BEING IRRELVANT. LATER IN
AFTERNOON ACCORDING UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL, STUDENTS DECIDED TO
CONTINUE BOYCOTT REMAINDER OF THIS WEEK AND TO RESUME
DISRUPTION OF LECTURES ON AUG. 11.

3. COMMENT: IF STUDENTS IN FACT CONTINUE DISRUPTIONS TOMORROW
(AUGUST 11), RECTOR WILL BE FORCED TO CARRY OUT HIS THREAT TO
CALL IN POLICE OR LOSE BOTH CREDIBILITY AND CONTROL. IF POLICE
ARE CALLED IN, LIKELIHOOD OF VIOLENT CONFRONTATION SEEMS VERY
HIGH.
WILLIAMS

UNQUOTE:
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Subject: RECTOR THREATENS RESIGNATION AT UWC
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SF, UNIV OF WESTERN CAPE, (VAN DER ROSS, RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006